

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the careful consideration and favorable treatment of the present application in which claims 106-131 were allowed and claims 4-41 and 44-105 were objected to but would otherwise be allowable.

Applicants have corrected an inadvertent error in the numbering of the original claims since several claim numbers were omitted. More specifically, original claims 103-131 have been renumbered to claims 102-130 and original claim 133 has been amended to claim 131. Thus, the following discussion of claims 102-131 refers to the newly renumbered claims.

In view of the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended claim 4 into independent form by including the subject matter of claim 1. This is not a narrowing amendment since claim 4 originally depended from claim 1. In view of the present amendment, reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 are earnestly solicited.

Claims 2-3, 5-25, 42, 43 and 87-92 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed claim 4, as amended.

In view of the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended claim 26 into independent form by including the subject matter of claim 1. This is not a narrowing amendment since claim 4 originally depended from claim 1. In view of the present amendment, reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 are earnestly solicited.

Claims 27-41, 44-86 and 93-99 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed claim 26, as amended.

In view of the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended claim 100 into independent form by including the subject matter of claim 1. This is not a narrowing amendment since claim 4 originally depended from claim 1. In view of the present amendment, reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 are earnestly solicited.

Claims 102-105 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed claim 100, as amended.

In view of the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended claim 101 into independent form by including the subject matter of claim 1. This is not a narrowing amendment since claim 4 originally depended from claim 1. In view of the present amendment, reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 are earnestly solicited.

Claims 106-131 stand allowed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: May 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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